

# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## Policy Manual

**SUBJECT:** Assessment

**NUMBER:** 2:11

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### 1. Purpose of Assessment

The primary purpose of the system assessment policy is to enhance the quality and excellence of programs, learning, and teaching by providing important information on the effectiveness of academic programs. Campus assessment programs should also increase communication within and between departments related to the departmental and institutional goals and objectives. It is also important that campus assessment programs enhance the public understanding of higher education and diversity of institutional roles and missions.

### 2. Campus Assessment Programs

Each university shall have in place a functioning assessment program which conforms to the accreditation requirements of the North Central Association and any specialty accreditations held by the university. At a minimum each assessment program shall:

- A. Assess the general education component of the baccalaureate curriculum including the system general education requirements, institutional graduation requirements, information literacy requirements, globalization/global issues requirements, and the advanced writing/writing intensive requirements.
- B. Assess each of the specialty areas for which a baccalaureate degree is offered.
- C. Consider the findings of the assessment program in the regular review of curriculum and related policies and procedures.

### 3. Assessment Periods

Each university shall integrate the assessment program into its orientation and registration process. Each university may designate, as needed, one day in the fall calendar and one day in the spring calendar to be used for the administration of assessment instruments to currently enrolled students.

### 4. Assessment Fee

Each campus is authorized to include in its university support fee a fee to be used for the administration of the assessment program.

**5. Approval and Reporting**

Each university shall provide a report of its assessment program to the Board at five year intervals, beginning no later than 1995.

**6. Student Participation**

Student participation in the assessment program established by each university is required. Students who do not participate shall be prevented from subsequent registration and graduation.

**SOURCE: BOR, August 1984; BOR, April 1987; BOR, June 1987; BOR, June 1992, BOR, March 2005.**